

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-29. (Canceled).

30. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~[[29]]~~ 34, further comprising the step of reproducing the converted data recorded on the recording medium loaded on the recording apparatus.

31. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~[[29]]~~ 34, further comprising the steps of:

reading the converted data recorded on the recording medium;

extracting the copy permission information from the converted data recorded on the recording medium;

generating information for controlling copying of the converted data to be output in accordance with the type of copy permission specified by the copy permission information; and

outputting the converted data along with the generated information for controlling copying of the converted data.

32. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~[[29]]~~ 34, further comprising the step of transforming the data into a form which cannot be reproduced when copied onto the other recording medium.

33. (Canceled).

34. (Currently Amended) ~~The method according to claim 29, further comprising the steps of:~~ A method for controlling copying of data in a recording apparatus, the method comprising the steps of:
inputting the data to be recorded onto a recording medium;
converting the input data into a predetermined format which is reproducible in the recording apparatus;
determining whether the input data includes information for controlling copying of the data;
if the input data does not include the information for controlling copying of the data, then adding copying permission information to the converted data;
if the input data includes the information for controlling copying of the data, then:
extracting the information for controlling copying of the data included in the input data; and
comparing a copy restriction level indicated by the information for controlling copying of the data included in the input data with a predetermined copy restriction level[[,]] instructed via an operation panel;

~~wherein the generating the copy permission information is generated in accordance with the comparison of the copy restriction level and added to the data with the predetermined copy restriction level, the copy permission information specifying a type of copy permission to be associated with the data; and~~

~~adding the copy permission information to the converted data; and
recording the converted data with the copy permission information onto the recording medium.~~

35. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~[[29]]~~ 34, further comprising the step of determining whether copy protection of the converted data to be recorded is instructed by a user of the recording apparatus, and wherein the copy permission information is generated and added to the converted data if copy protection of the converted data to be recorded is instructed.

36-37. (Canceled).

38. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim ~~[[37]]~~ 42, further comprising a reproducing device which reproduces the converted data recorded on the recording medium loaded on the recording apparatus.

39. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim ~~[[37]]~~ 42, further comprising:

a reading device which reads the converted data recorded on the recording medium;

an information extracting device which extracts the copy permission information from the converted data recorded on the recording medium;

an information generating device which generates information for controlling copying of the converted data to be output in accordance with the type of copy permission specified by the copy permission information; and

an outputting device which outputs the converted data along with the generated information for controlling copying of the converted data.

40. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim ~~[[37]]~~ 42, further comprising a transforming device which transforms the data into a form which cannot be reproduced when copied onto the other recording medium.

41. (Canceled).

42. (Currently Amended) ~~The apparatus according to claim 37, further comprising:~~ A recording apparatus comprising:

an operation panel;

an inputting device which inputs data to be recorded onto a recording medium;

a converting device which converts the input data into a predetermined format which is reproducible in the recording apparatus;

a determining device which determines whether the input data includes information for controlling copying of the data;

an extracting device which extracts the information for controlling copying of the data included in the input data; ~~and~~

a comparing device which compares a copy restriction level indicated by the information for controlling copying of the data included in the input data with a predetermined copy restriction level ~~[[,]]~~ instructed via the operation panel;

~~wherein the~~ a generating device which generates copy permission information is generated in accordance with the comparison of the copy restriction level and added to the data with the predetermined copy restriction level, the copy permission information specifying a type of copy permission to associate with the data;

an adding device which adds the copy permission information to the converted data; and

a recording device which records the converted data with the copy permission information onto the recording medium.

43. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim ~~[[37]]~~ 42, further comprising ~~[[a]]~~ an instruction determining device which determines whether copy protection of the converted data to be recorded is instructed by a user of the recording apparatus, and wherein the copy permission information is generated and added to the converted data if copy protection of the converted data to be recorded is instructed.

44. (Canceled).